

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6648

BILL NUMBER: HB 1042

DATE PREPARED: Dec 5, 2001

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Age 65 Resident Fishing License.

FISCAL ANALYST: Bernadette Bartlett

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FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 X DEDICATED
 X FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires a resident who is at least 65 years of age and who wishes to fish to obtain a license. The bill provides a reduced license fee for these individuals. Under current law a resident at least 65 years of age who wishes to fish is not required to have a license. (The introduced version of this bill was approved by the Natural Resources Study Committee.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2002.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues: This bill imposes a fee of \$2.75 for residents 65 or over who wish to obtain a license to fish.

The Census Bureau indicates that approximately 750,000 of Indiana's 6,000,000 residents (or 12.5%) are 65 or over. The Division of Fish and Wildlife of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reports that approximately 450,000 residents purchased a license to fish, or 7.5% of the total population. Given these data, approximately 8% of Indiana's population purchase a license to fish. If the same percentage of residents 65 or over obtain fishing licenses, 60,000 individuals ($750,000 * .08$) would be required to purchase a license at a charge of \$2.75. The increase in revenue to the state is estimated at \$165,000 ($60,000 * \2.75).

Increase in Federal Revenue from the Sale of Fishing Licenses. The state receives \$4.90 from the federal government for each fishing license sold. Estimated federal revenue that would result from assessing the fee would equal \$294,000 ($60,000 * \4.90)

The total annual revenue from the fee is estimated at \$459,000 (\$165,000 + \$294,000).

Revenues collected from fishing license fees are deposited in the Fish and Wildlife Fund. The operating

budgets of the DNR's Division of Fish and Wildlife and the Division of Law Enforcement are funded through the Fish and Wildlife Fund.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues: County clerks that sell licenses may be entitled to assess and retain \$0.25 for each license sold. The increase in revenue would depend on the number of licenses sold by the clerks.

State Agencies Affected: Department of Natural Resources.

Local Agencies Affected: Counties.

Information Sources: Dan Mathis and Sheila Gamble, DNR (317) 232-36904; Statistical Abstract of the United States: 1999, No. 33 Resident Population, by Age and State: 1998; <http://www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/licenses/licfeeinfo.htm>.